

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 19, 2019

The Honorable Ben Carson
Secretary
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street Southwest
Washington, DC 20410

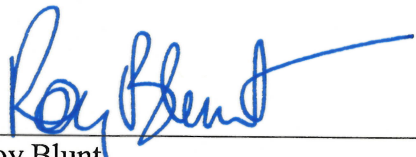
Dear Secretary Carson,

We urge you to publish a Federal Register Notice so that the recently appropriated Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding can be distributed to States affected by natural disasters. As you are aware, Missouri has been devastated by historic flooding along the Missouri and Mississippi River systems. Our constituents now face the difficult task of rebuilding their homes, farms, schools, and businesses. Missouri is in urgent need of federal assistance.


On May 20, 2019 and July 9, 2019 President Trump approved requests from Missouri Governor Mike Parson for two major disaster declarations to help repair roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure effected by weather events. Under FEMA-4435-DR, FEMA granted public assistance to 13 counties. Under FEMA-4451-DR, FEMA granted public assistance to 68 counties, and individual assistance to 26 counties. FEMA assistance is essential to facilitate recovery efforts, but more help is needed. Missouri communities damaged by these floods will benefit from the resources that CDBG-DR funding will provide in rebuilding houses, businesses, and other public infrastructure. Victims of natural disasters should not have to wait on slow-moving bureaucratic processes to receive money intended for their recovery.

We appreciate your agency's commitment to helping those who have had their homes and communities affected by weather events that are beyond their control. We ask that HUD coordinate with FEMA to ensure that CDBG - DR funding be quickly and accurately disbursed to communities in need. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

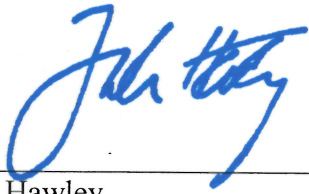
Sincerely,



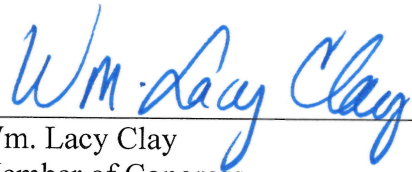
Roy Blunt
United States Senator



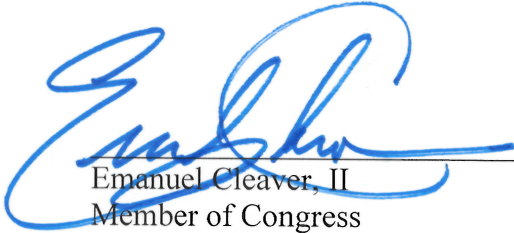
Sam Graves
Member of Congress



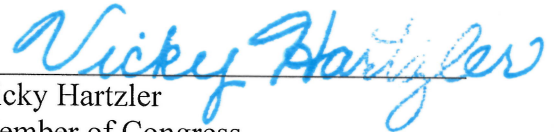
Josh Hawley
United States Senator



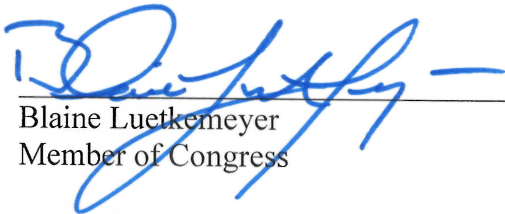
Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



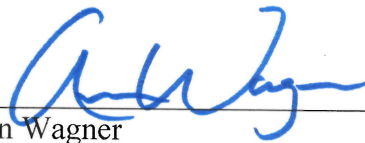
Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



Billy Long
Member of Congress



Jason Smith
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
Member of Congress